(6) Industties have been asked to comply with consent requirements of the State Pollution Control Boards to keep the discharge of effluents and emissions within the stipulated limits.

(7) Industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment on a time bound basis and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.

(8) 17 categories of heavily polluting industries have been identified and these industries have been asked by the State Government to comply with the effluent/emission standards.

(9) Fiscal incentives are provided for installation pollution control equipment and shifting of polluting industries from congested areas.

(10) Gross and mass emission standards for all vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. The Ministry of Surface Transport have advised the various State Transport Directorates to enforce the gross emission standards with effect from 1st March, 1990.

(11) Public awareness compaigns have been launched about vehicular pollution.

(12) Prosecutions have been launched by the State Transport Directorate against the vehicle owners for violation of vehicular emission standards under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. In addition, certificates of fitness/pollution control certificates of polluting Vehicles are cancelled and their owners are instructed to comply with the prescribed standards, before issue of fresh certificates.

(13) Epidemiological studies have been initiated in heavily polluted areas.

Encroachment of Forests Land by Tribals

210. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government in the recent past held discussion with the Government of Madhya Pradesh on the demand for regulation of encroachment of forest land by tribals after 1977 and approval for distribution of pattas to families engaged in cultivation of forest land for the past 12 years in that state; and

(d) if so, what are the details of the discussions held and what decision taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (B) Diversion of 1·03 lakhs hectares forests land for regularisation of pre 1980 encrochments in favour of eligible encroachers has been approved by the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. As per guidelines issued by the Ministry, diversion of forest land for regularsation of encroachments in favour of encroachers found ineligible as per criteria fixed by the State Government in 1978 can not be approved. This has been explained during discussions held with the State Govrment Officials in the recent past.

Harm to Human Health besides Environmental Pollution

211. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the thermal power stations in the countryy throw up one lakh tonnes of fly-ash every day, thereby causing immense harm to human health besides environmental pollution at a large scale ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the recently released report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climatic Change (IPCC) has again focussed attention on the fact that emissions from industrial activities on earth are substantially increasing the atmospheric concentration of greenhouse gases ;

(c) whether the global temperature would increase by 0.3 degrees celsiuse per decade if man-made pollution of the atmosphere is left unchecked ; and

(d) if so, what extent Government propose to counter these environmental and pollution hazards ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) It is estimated that thermal power stations in the country are generating about one lakh tonnes of fly-ash per day, creating environmental problems.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) There is considerable scientific uncertainty about the rate at which global temperatures may increase on account of human activities.